Amendments to the Specification

Please amend paragraph [0001] as follows:

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application serial no. 60/404,803, filed August 19, 2002[[2003]], entitled "Image Processor Systems with Noise Reduction Circuit," of Michael Frank, which application is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Please amend paragraph [0002] as follows:

This application is related to the following concurrently filed and commonly assigned U.S. patent applications: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[_____]] 10/634,302, entitled "Video Imaging System Including A Digital Image Sensor and A Digital Signal Processor," of Michael Frank et al.; and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[_____]] 10/634,296, entitled "Tone Correction Method Using A Blending Mask," of Michael Frank et al. The aforementioned patent applications are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

Please amend paragraph [0047] as follows:

Digital image processor 104 also includes a programmable lookup table 230 coupled between frame buffer 238 and interpolator module 232. Lookup table 230 can be programmed by system processor 240 to implement a variety of image processing functions, including but not limited to defective or dead pixel correction and privacy masking. The use of a programmable lookup table in an image sensor, such as lookup table 217 and lookup table 230, to provide image processing functions is described in detail in copending and commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial [[NO. _____]] No. 10/634,339, entitled "Digital CMOS Image Sensor Incorporating A Programmable Multi-Functional Lookup Table," of David Yang et al., filed [[_____]] August 4, 2003, which application is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Please amend paragraph [0081] as follows:

In the present embodiment, interface circuit 224 further includes a digital interface (DIF) module 226 which provides write protect function for frame buffer 228. Specifically, when pixel data are transferred from digital image sensor 102, DIF module 226 prevents the writing of the pixel data for a specific pixel location if the pixel data contains a predetermined

codeword. In this manner, the value for that pixel location stored in frame buffer 228 is preserved. The DIF module and the use of special codewords have particular application in performing defective or dead pixel correction and privacy masking. The operation of DIF module 226 in conjunction with lookup table 230 for performing dead pixel correction, privacy masking and other image processing functions, is described in detail in the aforementioned U.S. Patent Application Serial [[NO. _____]] No. 10/634,339, entitled "Digital CMOS Image Sensor Incorporating A Programmable Multi-Functional Lookup Table," of David Yang et al.